

Chief, St/I/R

26 September 1955

THRU : Chief, D/S

Chief, S/TR

Requirements for Intelligence on Foreign Ports and Shipping

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25X6A BACKGROUND

[REDACTED] has suggested that it might be beneficial to interrogate masters and crews of [REDACTED]-flag merchant vessels generally along the lines of such interrogations now carried on by the US [REDACTED] for their own and other merchant vessels. Although [REDACTED] vessels do not generally operate in areas of particular importance to US intelligence there is the possibility of "third party" source exploitation which might prove valuable. It is suggested, therefore, that the requirements outlined below be directed to such third party sources as well as to principal sources. The following requirements are not intended to be the exhaustive, basic data type but rather those which could be answered by a well-briefed source standing on a ship's deck.

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REQUIREMENTS

1. What is estimated depth of harbor. Give estimates for various sections of harbor; identify each on chart.
2. Describe obstructions to entry, exit and navigation within harbor. Describe any activity noted to remove such obstructions.
3. Describe cargo handling facilities in port; number of piers, capacity of cranes, warehouse space. Describe facilities employed by other vessels as well as those employed by subject vessel.
4. Based on observations, estimate cargo handling capacity of port, for bulk cargo (by types), for general cargo.
5. Describe condition of wharves, warehouses, piers, cargo handling and storage areas, any evidence of new construction completed or underway.
6. Describe availability, efficiency and cost of labor, use of women laborers, efficiency of supervision.
7. Note adequacy and condition of floating equipment such as tugs, lighters, harbor dredges, any evidence of new equipment.

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SUBJECT: Requirements for Intelligence on Foreign Ports and Shipping

8. Describe traffic in port, number of vessels, name, type and flag, any data as to origin/destination of vessels, nature and volume of cargo lifted or discharged.

9. Any general observations above which might aid in evaluating economic capabilities of port.

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